

Amendments to the Specification:

Please insert the following paragraph after the title:

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application is the National Stage of International Application No. PCT/JP2003/017020, filed December 26, 2003, which claims the benefit of Japanese Patent Application Serial No. 2003-7897, filed on March 20, 2003. The contents of both applications are hereby incorporated by reference in their entireties.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 25, line 16, after the paragraph ending with “transparent peripheries (Fig. 3A)”, as follows:

In contrast, the ice prepared from Solution B (AFP+) was a red-colored ice containing the red ink component dispersed entirely (Fig. 3B). This may have been caused by the AFP effectively inhibiting the freeze concentration of the red ink component according to the mechanism illustrated in ~~Figs. 2D-2F~~ Fig. 2B.